

REMARKS

The Office Action dated February 28, 2006, has been received and carefully considered. Reconsideration of the outstanding objections/rejections in the present application is respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

THE ANTICIPATION REJECTION OF CLAIMS

On page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1-2, 4-8, and 10-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Perlman (U.S. Patent No. 6,546,486). This rejection is hereby respectfully traversed. Applicants incorporate herein by reference the previously filed Remarks.

The Examiner asserts that the claimed "second key" is disclosed by the firewall public key of Perlman. Applicants respectfully submit that if the claimed "second key" is the firewall public key, then Perlman fails to disclose the claimed "detection of an exchange of a first encryption key between a host device and a remote device."

The Examiner relies on col. 4, lines 63-66, to allegedly disclose this feature. The cited portion refers to "message key 204" for use in encrypting a message between source 102 and destination 110. However, as disclosed in Perlman (and relied upon by the Examiner) it is message key 306 that is detected. Col. 5, lines 55-67. Key 204 (i.e., the alleged claimed "first

key") is not detected, but rather is passed to destination 110 for decryption at the destination. Id. Therefore, even if Perlman's "public key" is considered to be the claimed "second key," then Perlman fails to disclose the claimed features of the "first key." For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of claims 1, 4, 5, 7 and 10-11 are improper and request that they be withdrawn.

Claims 2, 6, 8 and 12 depend from one of claims 1, 7 or 11 and, thus, contain the features recited therein. As discussed above, Perlman fails to disclose or suggest each feature recited in the independent claims. For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of claims 2, 6, 8 and 12 are also improper and respectfully request that they be withdrawn.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 3 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Perlman in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,438,612 to Ylonen et al. (hereinafter "Ylonen"). Claims 3 and 9 depend from claims 1 and 7 respectively and, as such, contain the features recited in the independent claims. Ylonen is relied upon to disclose the use of IKE protocols and, as such, fails to repair the above detailed deficiencies of Perlman. For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully

submit that the rejections of claims 3 and 9 are improper and request that they be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number, in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136 is hereby made.

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Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0206, and please credit any excess fees to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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